

With the Author's compliments

Section of the History of Medicine.

President—Mr. WALTER G. SPENCER, O.B.E., M.S.



The Place of the Tudor Surgeons in English Literature.

By Sir D'ARCY POWER, K.B.E., F.R.C.S.

THE Renaissance in England began with the introduction of printing into this country in the last quarter of the fifteenth century. Before that time manuscripts had been costly and the stationers who copied and sold them were not numerous even in so large a town as London. It was still possible to say whether they had been written by a copyist who came from the north or the south country, and a traveller would have found that the language of the people was a succession of dialects as he passed from one shire to another.

The advent of printing changed everything. The English language was standardized earlier in the written than in the spoken word, standardized, too, in an astonishingly short period of time. The children and the grandchildren of those who had seen the first printed book had developed, as I shall show, a style which in the next generation was polished into the nervous language of Shakespeare, and into the stately cadences of the translators of the Authorized Version of the Bible. Other changes took place in the character of the English nation during this same period. We became a musical race, and for two hundred years nearly every Englishman could take his share in a part song, whilst the Church music and the Graces of the time are still things of great joy when we hear them rendered as they were intended to be given. Cities were small, streets were narrow and houses were stuffy. We had developed the love of fresh air which still makes us offensive to our continental neighbours when they are obliged to travel with us in the same railway carriage, and with the love of fresh air came a love of all that is beautiful in the countryside, the fields, the flowers, the streams and the cattle. All were easy to see and to reach even by the poorest or the most infirm citizen. In London, as soon as he got outside the City walls he was in the country. He could walk on a summer's evening to Clerkenwell, to Bagnigge Wells, to Islington, to Hampstead, or to Paddington, being sure of finding plenty of company in the fields and lanes on the way, and of good refreshment before he turned home again. If he was more pensively inclined and wished for solitude, he could wander along the side of the Tybourne, or along the Westbourne, until he came to Father Thames himself.

My object this afternoon is to show you how faithfully the English surgical writers of the sixteenth century reflect these characters of the English Renaissance. What could be more full of the joy of life than the opening passages of Thomas Gale's *Institution of a Surgeon*, written "at my house in Paddington in the year 1563"? John Yates, a well-known surgeon of the time, is speaking. He begins:—

"Phoebus who chaseth away the dark and uncomfortable night, casting his golden beams in my face, would not suffer me to take any longer sleep but said: Awake for shame and behold the handiwork of our sister Flora, how she hath revested the earth with most beautiful colours, marvellously set in trees, plants, herbs and flowers; insomuch that the old and withered coat of Winter is quite done away and put out of remembrance; at which words of Phoebus my heart quickened in me, and all desire of sleep was eft-soon forgotten. Wherefore I am now come into this beautiful meadow to recreate myself and gather some of those pleasant herbs and flowers which here do grow. But let me see, methinks I see two

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men walking together and reasoning also very earnestly. I will approach nearer unto them, perchance they be of my acquaintance; surely I should know them, I am deceived if the one be not my friend Master Gale and the other Master Field. It is so indeed, wherefore I will go and salute them; God that hath brought us together into this place make this day prosperous and fortunate unto you both."

This chance foregathering leads to an interesting and spirited discourse on surgery which, as in the case of Walton's angler, a century later, is thrown into the form of question and answer.

A similar love of Nature is shown by William Bullen, who addresses Thomas Gale as "Amantissimus et Probissimus Vir." He says in his *Dialogue against the Fever Pestilence*, by the voice of one of his characters who is riding to Barnet to escape the plague:—

"How pleasant are these sweet fields garnished with fair plants and flowers: the birds do sing sweetly and pitifully in the bushes; here are pleasant woods. Jesus! man, who would be in the city again? Not I for an hundred pound."

A little later on in the same journey the party is overtaken by a thunderstorm, which is described most graphically. The Citizen first notices its oncoming, saying:—

"Wife, Wife! God send us good luck; do you not see yonder cloud in the West towards the north coming hither. Let us take this house; ride apace: the storm doth begin most fearful. God help us! what shall we do or whither shall we flee? Jesus, Jesus! what a thunder is this. As if heaven and earth should go together. Lord, how the lightning falleth from heaven! All this region is upon a flaming fire; the birds fall from the trees; look how the cattle tremble, and trees are pulled up by the roots, and the houses are burnt with celestial fires."

To which his wife replies:—

"Let us depart from these trees for I have heard say to sit under a white thorn is most safe and surest in a tempest. I have here many goodly jewels against lightning, as the Carbuncle, Emerald, Hyacinthus with Amber and Gold. God and S. Barbara defend us. I have a S. John's Gospel about my neck and a pair of bracelets of Coral about mine arms. Oh God, defend us! I am sorry that we came forth."

William Clowes, writing on the subject of syphilis, gives a good example of contemporary literary style when he says in his preface:—

"I have at this present (loving brethren and friendly reader) to entreat of that disease, and the cure of the same, which in Latin is called Morbus Gallicus or Morbus Neapolitanus; but more properly Lues Venerea, that is the pestilent infection of filthy lust; a sickness very loathsome, odious, troublesome and dangerous. A notable testimony of the just wrath of God against that filthy sin, which at this day, not only infecteth Naples, Spain and France, but increaseth yet daily spreading itself throughout all England and overfloweth (as I think) the whole world and therefore is the cure thereof most expedient, profitable and necessary to be looked unto, And forasmuch as the best avoiding and cure of every disease, consisteth in shunning and removing the cause thereof, I wish all men generally, especially those which be infected, to loathe, detest, hate and abhor that stinking sin, that is the original cause of this infection, and to pray earnestly to God the heavenly Physician and Chirurgeon, for his gracious assistance to the perfect amendment of life; the most safest and surest way to remove it. Secondly, I wish all Magistrates, as the second Chirurgeons appointed of God, even in the love of their country and the zeal and care they have unto their countrymen, to have a watchful eye to find out the offenders in this behalf;—to execute upon them such condign punishment, as may be a terror to the wicked, the rather to abstain and abandon themselves from such abominable wickedness, so filthy in the sight of God and man. Thirdly, the disease being thus ransacked and these causes searched, salved and removed, I doubt not by the help of God, good brethren, I shall here set down a profitable treatise,

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with sufficient instructions for the cure of the residue of this sickness so far as my learning and knowledge will extend. In the which I have had no small practice and experience for many years. Let me crave thy friendly acceptation of my hearty good will and faithful zeal to this my country and countrymen whom I see in these days exceedingly afflicted with this noisome and perilous sickness, unto whom notwithstanding I dare promise no help at all, no, not by the best and most sovereign medicines in the world except they be at defiance with this sin and wholly bend themselves to walk in the obedience of God's holy laws. . . . If any error herein have escaped my pen, or if the Printer have made any default; which I suppose some indeed will escape, yea if it were perused and re-perused with Argus eyes; wherefore my good brethren and friendly readers either courteously amend the faults or friendly admonish me of the same, and use so much to thy profit as is found faultless. So shall I find my labours happily bestowed and most willingly accept thy friendly correction."

Every word of this preface resounds with the true spirit of Tudor time. It breathes throughout the newly found spirit of patriotism depending on the fact that England had become a nation. There is a quiet, religious feeling, which was not a pose, and which led simple-minded men to those changes which caused the Reformation. It proves the writer's self-reliance in no spirit of boastfulness, for, as he says, his knowledge is based upon experience. He is clean minded and he clothes his thoughts in excellent English. The personal character of his address shows that London was still a very small place and it is probable that he knew personally the greater number of those who would read his book.

Master Clowes could speak his mind very plainly when the occasion called for it, as may be seen from the following passages, where he is roused by the deplorable state into which English surgery had fallen in his day:—

"Where the learned physician or surgeon cannot be had for council I am herein to admonish the friendly reader in this cause to take heed and not to commit themselves unto the hands of every blind buzzard, that will take upon them to let blood, yea to the utter undoing of a number. For many in these days being no better than runagates or vagabonds do extraordinarily, yea disorderly and unadvisedly intrude themselves into other men's professions, that is to say not only in letting of blood, but also do take upon them farther to intermeddle and practise in this art, wherein they were never trained or had any experience; of the which a great number be shameless in countenance, lewd in disposition, brutish in judgment and understanding, as was their unlearned leader and Maister, Thessalus, a vain practitioner, who when his cunning failed, sent his patients to Libya for change of air. This Thessalus was he which in his own conceit, pleasant fancy or rather foolish imagination said that it was possible to make a perfect physician of a rude man within the space of five months. I will leave him with his fables and riddles, with such other like creaking combatters and slaunderous fellows which persuade themselves to be equal with the best and inferior to none.

This, their grand Captain, was by profession a Teasler of wool and also the fore-runner of this beastly brood following; which do forsake their honest trades, whereunto God hath called them and do daily rush into Physick and Chirurgerie. And some of them be Painters, some Glasiers, some Tailors, some Weavers, some Joiners, some Cutlers, some Cooks, some Bakers, and some Chandlers &c. Yea, nowadays it is apparent to see how Tinkers, Tooth-drawers, Pedlers, Ostlers, Carters, Porters, Horse-gelders & Horse-leeches, Idiots, Apple-squires, Broom men, bawds, witches, conjurers, Sooth-sayers & sow-gelders, Rogues, Ratcatchers, Runagates and Proctors of Spittle houses with such like rotten and stinking weeds, which do in town and country, without order, honesty and skill daily abuse both Physic and Chirurgery, having no more perseverance, reason or knowledge in this art than hath a goose; but a certain blind practice without wisdom or judgement & most commonly useth one remedy for all diseases and one way of curing to all persons, both old and young, men, women and children which is as impossible to be performed or to be true as for a shoemaker with one last to make a shoe fit for every man's foot, and this is one principle cause that so many perish."

This generation of surgeons—Hall, Gale, Clowes and Read—tried an experiment which began and ended with them and, fortunately for us, failed. They essayed to

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write in verse. It cannot be called poetry, and very often neither the rhyme nor the rhythm appeals to our ears, although this, of course, may be due to our different method of pronunciation. Hall, of Maidstone, addressed Gale, of London, in this fashion; Gale in turn wrote to Hall; Goodrus and Gerrard produced halting stanzas in praise of Clowes, and Clowes himself was emboldened to epitomize Gui de Chauliac in the same manner. It is not possible to say who began the experiment but it may have been started by Hall, who published in 1550 *Certayne Chapters taken out of the Proverbs of Solomon with other chapters of the Holy Scripture and certain Psalms of David translated into English Metre* with such success that they were attributed to Thomas Sternhold, and in 1565 *The Court of Virtue, containing many Holy or Spiritual Songs, Sonnets, Psalms, Ballets and Short Sentences, as well of Holy Scriptures as others, with Music*. At any rate "the scab soon spread" as one of his contemporaries would have said, and each copy of verses became worse than its predecessor. Here are a few examples in chronological order:—

John Hall writes of the need and conduct of a professional consultation.

When thou art called at any time
a patient to see;
And dost perceive the cure too great
and ponderous for thee;

See that thou lay disdain aside
and pride of thine own skill;
And think no shame counsel to take
but rather with good will

Get one or two of expert men
to help thee in that need:
And make them partakers with thee,
in that work to proceed.

He points out the advantages to be gained both on the part of the surgeon and of the patient and then goes on to say:—

But one thing note, when two or more
together joyned be
About the painful patient
see that ye do agree,

See that no discord do arise
nor be at no debate;
For that shall sore discomfort him
that is in sick estate.

See thou dispraise none other man
his error though thou know;
For sure another for thy plague
shall thee like courtesy show.

Commend the deeds of each good man,
the best, look, that thou may;
So shall good fame redound to thee,
from all men day by day.

And when alone with your foreman,
one of you is present;
Defame nor dispraise in no wise,
the same that is absent.

For nought can more discomfort him
that lies in grief and pain
To hear that one of you doth bear
to other such disdain.

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Therefore what so ye have to say
 in things about your art ;
 Let it be done among yourselves,
 in secret and apart.
 With one consent uniformly
 comfort the wounded man ;
 But unto some good friend of his
 express all that ye can
 And let them know the danger great
 that like is to succeed
 Prognosticating wittily
 and in convenient speed.

Compare this with Clowes' efforts in the same direction :—

So practice without learning, we ought not to admit,
 these two may not be separate that are so duly knit.
 There must be a dexterity and a fineness in working,
 a quick remembrance eke and a ready understanding.
 He must be circumspect and seek to avoid all slander,
 not too covetous for money, but a reasonable demander.
 Being good unto the poor, let the rich pay therefore,
 so God will bless his doings and he shall have the more.
 He must also be honest, in living eke upright,
 to serve the Lord in truth, he ought to have delight
 Avoiding of drunkenness and riot to detest
 lest he grow fit for nothing but Bacchus belly feast.

John Gerard, writing in commendation of a book by Clowes, sings :—

Some errors yet if such there be,
 Clowes willing mind may quickly mend anew
 For wise men wink when often times they see,
 Whilst fools are blind when most they seem to view.

Gale is perhaps a little better as a versifier, but not much. Sending out his translation of the *Methodus Medendi* from "my poore house in London the vii of Novemb. 1566," he says :—

Go forth my painful book
 Thou art no longer mine ;
 Each man may on thee look
 The shame or praise is thine.
 Thou mightst with me remain
 And so eschew all blame,
 But since thou wouldst so fain
 Go forth in God's name.
 And seek thou for no praise
 Nor thanks, nor yet reward
 Nor each man for to please
 Have thou no great regard.

Bullein in his *Dialogue bewtween Soareness and Chirurgi* has some very bad lines describing the unqualified surgeons of his day, which begin :—

Some men in misery strange shifts will make
 Spending time vainly and labour forsake ;

but no attempt seems to have been made to carry on the practice after his time, and he died in 1576.

I think that I have gone far to substantiate the claim I made at the beginning of this short paper, that the Elizabethan surgeons have a very definite place in English literature at a time when our written language was attaining its highest place.

56 Spencer: *Wolveridge's "Speculum Matricis"***Wolveridge's "Speculum Matricis" (1671), with Notes on Two MS. Copies in the Society's Library.**

By HERBERT R. SPENCER, M.D.

WOLVERIDGE'S *Speculum Matricis* or *The Expert Midwives Handmaid* is one of the rarest books on midwifery; indeed no less an authority than Dr. Aveling feared that what he described as "the earliest original work on midwifery in the English language" has been irretrievably lost.¹ It was one of the earliest works on midwifery to appear in English, the first (original) work being the translation (1653) of Harvey's *De Generatione Animalium* (1651). The *Speculum Matricis* has little claim to originality and is not quite so rare as Aveling at first thought, for afterwards² he was informed that there was a copy in the Radford Library at Manchester, and another was at Capel, Surrey, in the possession of Mr. John Lee Jardine, who presented it to the Royal College of Surgeons. It is now in the Royal College of Surgeons Library, stamped with the date of its reception, 11 July, 88. It is bound in leather, is smaller than the Radford Library copy, having been somewhat cut down, so that it only measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $3\frac{11}{16}$ in. It has twenty-eight preliminary leaves, including the two-compartment frontispiece by Cross, and consists of 156 printed pages, pages 144 and 145 and pages 159 to 166 being copied in manuscript from the Radford Library copy.³ It contains eight plates and twenty-one illustrations in the text. There is no copy of the book in the libraries of the British Museum, the Surgeon-General (Washington) or the Royal College of Physicians, London. There is a perfect printed copy of the *Speculum Matricis*⁴ in the library of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, and so far as I know the only other printed copies (both imperfect) known to exist at the present time are those mentioned, viz., the copy in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons and that in the Radford Library of St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester. Through the kindness of the staff of the latter institution and especially of Dr. Fletcher Shaw, who sent me the book for inspection and has furnished me with a photograph of the title-page, I am able to exhibit it.

The Radford Library copy is a small octavo volume (6 in. by $3\frac{3}{4}$ in.) bound in contemporary leather (somewhat rubbed and worn) and wants the two-compartment frontispiece. It has twenty-seven preliminary leaves, 166 pages, twenty-one engravings in the text and eight separate plates. Although the author in his address to the reader, says that the book was "never intended for the Irish" he published it with the title *Speculum Matricis Hibernicum, or the Irish Midwives Handmaid*, London, 1670. Of this work there is a copy in the Bodleian Library, and I recently saw another copy (with the date torn from the title-page) in a bookseller's catalogue, but was too late to secure it, being forestalled by my friend, Professor Essen-Möller, of Lund, Sweden. Although the *Speculum Matricis Hibernicum* is dated 1670 it seems probable that it was printed after the English edition.

The *Speculum Matricis* or *The Expert Midwives Handmaid* contains little which is original and I find that for the most part it is a sheer plagiarism⁵ from

¹ *Trans. Obst. Soc. Lond.*, xxvi, 31.

² *Brit. Med. Journ.* 1884 (i), 435.

³ J. B. Bailey, *Athenæum*, Nov. 17, 1888, 667.

⁴ I am indebted to Mr. Graham, the librarian of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, for particulars of this copy, which is perfect and has the two-compartment frontispiece.

⁵ Plagiarism appears to have been rife at this period and sometimes led to legal proceedings; as in the case of Rider's Dictionary concerning which Thomas Fuller (*The Worthies of England*, 1662) writes: "Such plagiary-ship ill becometh authors and printers and, the dove being the crest of the stationers' armes, should mind them not, like rooks, to filch copies one from another."

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The Expert Midwife, an English translation of Rueff's *De Generatione Hominum* (1580, &c.) which was published in 1637. An appearance of originality is given by casting Rueff's work into the form of a dialogue between Dr. Philadelphos



FIG. 1.—Pen-and-ink copy, by John Lee Jardine, of the Frontispiece of Wolveridge's *Speculum Matricis* (1671). The doctor in the lower compartment is said to be Wolveridge. From the MS. copy in the Society's Library.

and Mrs. Eutrapelia, the midwife. The illustrations also are taken from Rueff, who in turn had copied them from Rösslin (*Rosengarten*, 1513).

The frontispiece of the *Speculum Matricis*, engraved by Cross, appears to be

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original. It has two compartments; the upper representing a lying-in chamber with the lying-in patient, the midwife and the infant; the lower representing the doctor (supposed to be the author) wearing wig and hat and addressing the pregnant

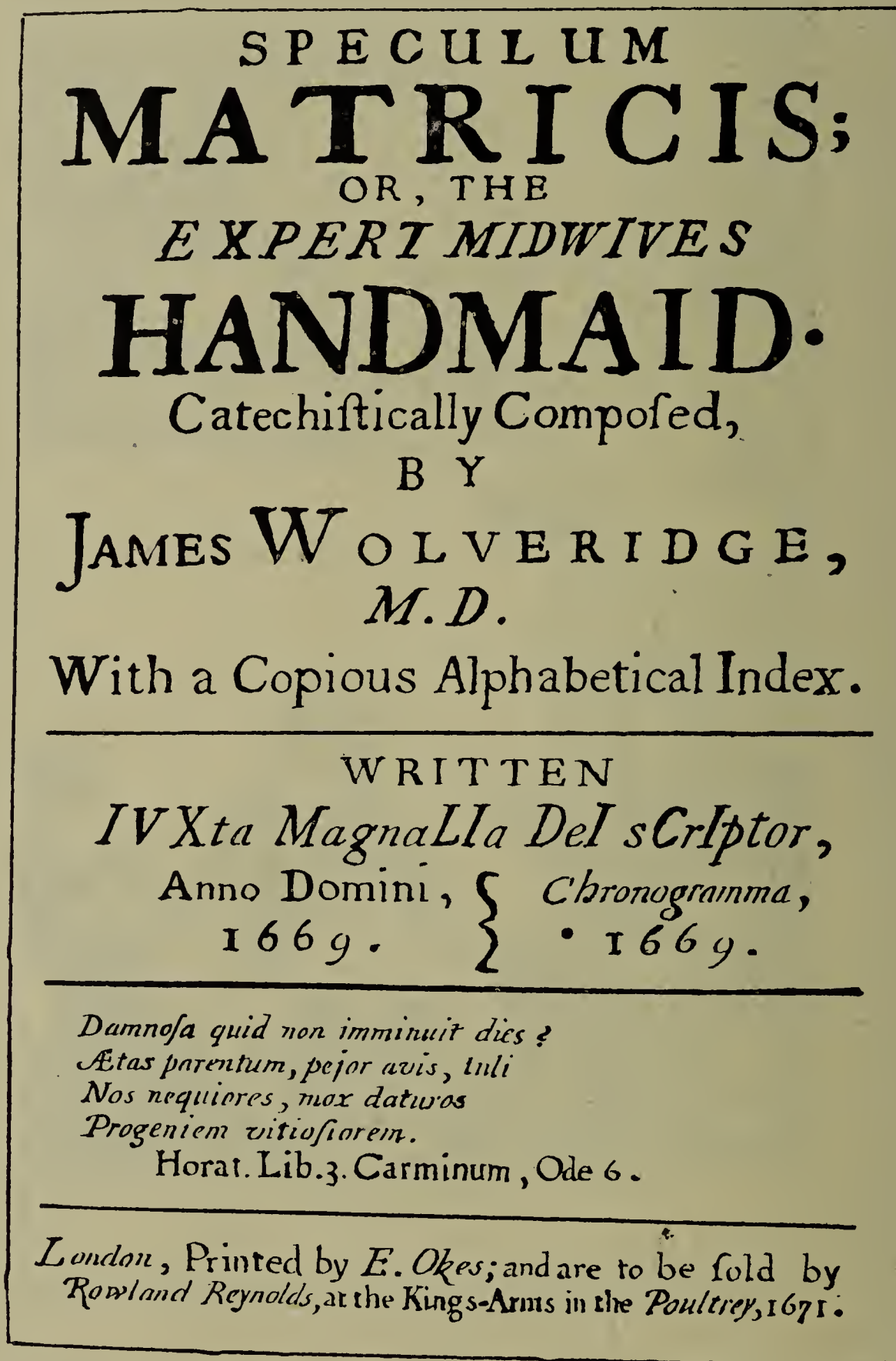


FIG. 2.—Pen-and-ink copy, by John Lee Jardine, of the Title-page of Wolveridge's *Speculum Matricis* (1671). The final "t" has been omitted in "tulit" in the *Horatian ode*.

patient and the midwife, who holds a book (no doubt the *Speculum Matricis*) in her hand.

This frontispiece is interesting also because it appears in an anonymous work entitled "*The English midwife, enlarged, containing Directions for Midwives,*"

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&c., &c., the whole fitted for the meanest capacities. Illustrated with near 40 copper cuts London, Printed for Rowland Reynolds next door to the Golden Bottle in the Strand at the Middle Exchange door, 1682."

The preface to *The English midwife, enlarged*, addressed "to all English midwives," says:—

"You are here presented with an amendment and supplement of what was necessary and yet wanting in this book formerly: so that you will find it to be wholly completed for your purpose, in every respect: it being altogether grounded upon many years' experience and observation in the practice of deliveries: most others being written by those that never practised the art: and some fathered upon persons that were no more concerned in them than the Pope of Rome; such as Sir Theodore de Mayern, Dr. Chamberlen and others, by the Publishers of the *Compleat Midwives Practice*,¹ so that I may justly say of this book, as the learned Sir Richard Baker says of his chronicle, that if all others were not to be found this alone were sufficient, with your diligence &c., &c."

The English Midwife enlarged is copied in great part from Wolveridge's *Speculum Matricis*. The writer even adopts the catechistical method of Dr. Philadelphos and Mrs. Eutrapelia. The order of the chapters is somewhat altered and there are verbal omissions and insertions; but in the main it is a copy of Wolveridge's work, without any acknowledgment of that author. Probably it was in the hands of the publisher Reynolds, who also sold the *Speculum Matricis*, and (? after the death of Wolveridge) thought it was an opportunity for bringing out a new edition. The title suggests that the book had formerly been published as *The English Midwife*, but I cannot find any record of the book bearing that title and the contents of *The English Midwife Enlarged* show that the former book was the *Speculum Matricis*.

The author of the *Speculum Matricis*, James Wolveridge, was an Englishman practising in Cork. Sir Charles Cameron, in his *History of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland*, states:—

"His name appears, but with a '?' before it, in Belcher's List of the Fraternity of Physicians, Trinity Hall, Dublin, established in 1660. I find the name 'James Wolveridge, M.D., 1664,' in Dr. Todd's Roll of Graduates of the University of Dublin."

Thus the author was a graduate of but five years' standing at the time of writing the book (1669).

It begins with a chapter by The Author to The Reader, signed James Wolveridge, from my Study in Cork, January 12, 16 $\frac{6}{7}$ $\frac{9}{10}$.

The book is not intended for the Irish but for the English, "his countrey-folk"; then comes an English ode by Jonathan Ashe e Coll. Oriell, Oxon, "To his deserving friend Dr. James Wolveridge," followed by a Latin ode by the author on his book: to this succeeds an English ode by Aquila Smyth, M.D., "on the Praise, and the happy delivery of James Wolveridge, Dr of Physick, in his labours on the Labour of Women, etc."; then follows an Encomiastichon in Latin addressed to the author by Jonathan Ashe; another, also in Latin, by Daniel Colman; then an ode in English by the author to his book and an Acrostick to Wolveridge by his obliged friend Richard Sampson.

The author reproduces Harvey's account of the unaided delivery of the wife of the soldier on the march, but he does not seem to have read Harvey's work (*De Generatione Animalium*) appreciatively, for he says "from whence it appears the liver to be a congealed and concrete blood"! The chapters on Anatomy and Development of the foetus, as also the illustrations, are taken from Rueff;

¹ *The Compleat Midwives Practice*, 1656, and *The Compleat Midwives Practice Enlarged*, 1659, by R.C.I.D.M.S.T.B: the second edition corrected: in this edition the names of Sir Theodore Mayern, Dr. Chamberlen and Mr. Nich. Culpepper are mentioned on the title-page.

Section V and onwards contains the Dialogue between Eutrapelia, the Midwife, and Philadelphos, the Doctor.

At p. 78 appears the following:—

Dr. Philadelphos (addressing Mrs. Eutrapelia):

"Having thus run through births, as well natural as præternatural, I shall give you the reason (and that in my own opinion) why these births are of so various and different postures in the womb, observing not alwaies the same posture: and 'tis thus. Because the infant swimming in water and moving itself, sometimes this way, sometimes that way and is bent and tumbled several waies; insomuch, that sometimes it is strangely entangled with its own navil-cord, which I am confident you have seen in your own experience oftentimes."

This is taken almost verbatim, without acknowledgment, from W. Harvey's *Generation of Living Creatures*, 1653, p. 471.

"For he swimmeth in a water, and moveth himself to and fro, he stretcheth himself now this way and anon that, and so is variously inflected and tumbled up and down; in so much that sometimes, being entangled in his own Navel-string, he is strangely insnared."

Wolveridge throws some light on the contemporary management of the puerperium, for he advises:—

"That women be kept in their beds for five daies at least after their delivery. I know 'tis usual for them to rise at three daies; but this to be sure the longer women contein themselves in their bed the more secure they are from danger."

So much for James Wolveridge and his printed book.

The main object of the present communication is to call attention to the fact that in the Obstetrical Society's Library, now incorporated with the Library of the Royal Society of Medicine, we possess two MS. copies of this rare work, one indifferently written and the other, made by one who modestly signs his initials J. L. J., a beautiful specimen of penmanship and draughtsmanship which make it one of the treasures of our Library. I purpose to give some account of the origin and author of this magnificent manuscript copy of a very rare book.

In the year 1884 a copy of the printed work was known to be in the possession of Dr. Fordyce Barker, of New York, and the Obstetrical Society of London had endeavoured to obtain a manuscript copy of the book. But Dr. Aveling reported¹ that:—

"The attempt of the Society to obtain a transcript of James Wolveridge's work on Midwifery, Dublin, 1670,² had failed, the man whom Dr. Fordyce Barker had employed to copy the book having absconded³ with the volume and died in Europe. By this loss of the only known copy of Wolveridge's work it is feared the earliest original work on Midwifery in the English language has been irretrievably lost."

Extracts from Minutes of the Council of the Obstetrical Society of London.

April 2, 1884, meeting.

"Two letters were read, one from Dr. Fordyce Barker, thanking the Society for a cheque for £5 sent him to procure the copying of a rare work (*Speculum Matricis*) and stating that the copyist having disappeared with the book and then died (as reported) he had been unable to get it copied; he returned the cheque. A letter from Dr. Wiltshire on the same subject was read."

April 28, 1884, meeting.

"Dr. Aveling proposed that a M.S. copy of Wolveridge's *Speculum Matricis* be made and that Dr. Cullingworth be empowered to incur the necessary expense."

¹ *Trans. Obst. Soc. Lond.*, 1884, xxvi, 31.

² It should have been London, 1671.

³ From information furnished by Dr. Clement Godson it appears that the copyist, a Frenchman named Bourgeaud, did not abscond, but died in great poverty in New York before the copying was completed. *Brit. Med. Journ.*, March 1, 1884.

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July 2, 1884, *meeting*.

"Dr. Herman read a letter from Mr. J. Lee Jardine, stating his intention of presenting to the Society a MS. Copy of the 'Speculum Matricis.'"

October 8, 1884, *meeting*.

"A letter from Dr. Cullingworth was read accompanying a M.S. copy of the *Speculum Matricis* which he had had made at a cost of £3." (This is evidently the inferior MS. now in the Library.)

June 5, 1888, *meeting*.

"It was proposed by Dr. M. Duncan, seconded by the President and unanimously agreed that the best thanks of the Society be given to Mr. J. Lee Jardine for the beautiful transcript of Wolveridge's *Speculum Matricis* which he had made for the Society, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. Jardine. It was further agreed that the said transcript be well bound."

Signed: JOHN WILLIAMS.

This manuscript is the volume with which this note is mainly concerned. It is contained in a special case and is of quarto size and bound in whole dark morocco. It is a beautiful example of fine writing and drawing with the pen.

It was evidently a labour of love and seems to have occupied the author's leisure hours for nearly four years.

Extract from the *Medical Directory* for 1884.

JARDINE, JOHN LEE, Capel, Dorking, Surrey—M.R.C.S. Eng. and L.S.A. 1850 (St. Thos's) Fell. Meteor. Soc.: Mem. Path. Soc.: Med. Off. Capel Village Hosp.: late Ass. Surg. Brit. Civ. Hosp. Smyrna, and served with Light Cav. at Eupatoria during Crimean war; formerly House Surg. St. Thos's Hosp., Lond. and Hants County Hosp.

I am able to give some further interesting particulars of the transcriber, John Lee Jardine, owing to the kindness of the Rev. Charles Inge, vicar of St. Giles' Church, Oxford, who was so good as to send me, in reply to my inquiries, the following letter:

"I am very glad to give you information about my dear old friend Dr. Jardine. He was living with some nieces of his wife at Holmwood in Surrey where I was vicar. His nieces married and the home was broken up: so we invited him in 1912 to come and live with us. In the following year he moved with us to Oxford and remained with us till his death in 1921.

"He was one of the best and most charming of men—absolutely unselfish and untiring in his kindness. He was a very faithful and devout churchman and did much for the parish of Capel during his long residence there. Of course I only knew him in his old age: he was 79 when I became vicar of Holmwood; but he retained his vigour of mind and body to the last, in a wonderful degree; taking long walks till he was 90 years of age; and losing neither sight nor hearing. He was no mean artist and I have a delightful album full of his drawings and water-colour sketches made on his many travels and ranging in date from 1846 to 1916. The many sketches made during the Crimean war are especially interesting. He was also musical, with a pleasant light tenor voice. He joined the Holmwood choir when he was 84!"

Mr. Inge adds a chronology of Jardine's life from which I extract the following:—

John Lee Jardine was the youngest child of Alexander Jardine and Sarah (Lee) and was born on Oct. 30, 1827 at Brixton Hill. He had seven brothers and sisters who all died as infants or young children except the first-born, Sarah Lee, who lived to the age of 80. His father Alexander Jardine, born Aug. 20, 1780, died April 30, 1848 aged 68. His mother Sarah Lee, born March 24, 1785, died March 24, 1874, aged 89.

In 1834 J. L. J. was at Eastbourne with Bickerdikes.

1839 went to Warley Court by rail and coach.

1843 went to University College School and was bound pupil to Mr. Ord¹ for five years.

¹ Mr. George Ord, father of Dr. Miller Ord: he practised at Brixton Hill for over fifty years.

Spencer: *Wolveridge's "Speculum Matricis"*

1846 entered St. Thomas's Hospital (Oct. 1)./

1852 was House Surgeon at Winchester Hospital.

1855 went to Smyrna via Ostend, Cologne, Hanover, Leipzig, Dresden, Prague, Vienna, Laibach, Trieste, Corfu, Cape Matapan, Athens (March 2-19).

In September to Balaclava, Eupatoria till November. 1856-1857 was House Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital.

1858 went to Capel, Surrey ("The Cottage").

1863 was appointed Vicar's Churchwarden.

1866 bought Burroughs's practice. On Oct. 2, Capel Church was reopened after restoration and the village Hospital opened by Bishop Sumner of Winchester.

1886 married (Sept. 7) Miss C. E. Morgan.

1900 moved to Dedisham, Rudgwick, Sussex; sold practice to H. Ward Clarke.

1901 went to Braydell Lodge, Wivelsfield.

1903 wife's illness: she died in 1920.

1904 went to Grandon Lodge, Holmwood, the house of his wife's nieces.

1912 to the Vicarage, Holmwood.

1913 to St. Giles' Vicarage, Oxford.

1921 died Nov. 3rd at the beginning of his 95th year and was buried on Nov. 5th in Wolvercote Cemetery, Oxford.

I feel sure the Society will appreciate these biographical details of the author of the Manuscript, kindly given by the Rev. Charles Inge, and will see in them a reason for the rule for not limiting the Membership of the Section of The History of Medicine to the medical profession.